



## MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Pangelinan  
Chief of Police

### PRESS RELEASE

## ROBBERY SUSPECTS ARRESTED

**DATE:** October 3, 2016  
**LOCATION:** 2000 block Cuesta Drive, Milpitas, CA  
**SUSPECT #1:** Lawrence Edward Thomas, 22 year-old male, Oakland, CA resident  
**SUSPECT #2:** Jake William Otis Baker Jr., 27 year-old male, Oakland, CA resident  
**SUSPECT VEHICLE:** 1999 gold Lexus RX 300 SUV with black paper plate

On Sunday, September 4, 2016, at approximately 10:21P.M., a Milpitas couple drove to their residence after shopping and were followed into their garage by two male suspects. One suspect approached the female victim and forcefully stole her purse and a gold necklace she was wearing. The male victim attempted to intervene but was confronted by both suspects. They assaulted the male victim and forcefully stole his necklace and bracelet. Both suspects fled the scene in a 1999 gold Lexus RX 300 SUV.

Milpitas Police Detectives conducted a thorough investigation and were able to identify Lawrence Edward Thomas, an Oakland resident, as the first suspect. Detectives obtained a \$155,000 warrant for Thomas' arrest for the crime of robbery. On September 6, 2016, with the assistance of the Oakland Police Department, Thomas was taken into custody and later booked into the Santa Clara County Jail for robbery, burglary, and battery.

Milpitas Detectives also identified Jake William Otis Baker Jr., also of Oakland, as the second suspect. A \$200,000 warrant for Baker's arrest was obtained. On September 29, 2016, Baker Jr. turned himself in to the Oakland Police Department. Baker Jr. was also booked into the Santa Clara County Jail for robbery.

Although crimes of this type are rare in Milpitas, the Police Department would like to remind residents to remain alert and aware of your surroundings at all times, even when running quick errands or returning home. If you believe you're being followed, it's better to drive to a populated, public place and call 911 rather than returning home.

If you have any information regarding this robbery or other crimes in Milpitas, you are encouraged to call the Milpitas Police Department at (408) 586-2400. Information may also be given anonymously by calling the Crime Tip Hotline at (408) 586-2500, or via the Milpitas Police Department website at: <http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/crimetip>

Press Release By: Lieutenant Raj Maharaj

Date/Time: October 3, 2016, 9:00 AM



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**SUSPECT #1:** Lawrence Edward Thomas



**SUSPECT #2:** Jake William Otis Baker Jr